SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT **OF FISH & GAME**

Emergency Order No. 1-KS-A-10-04 Issued at Ketchikan, Thursday, June

10, 2004

Effective 12:01 A.M. Monday, Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Saturday, July

June 14, 2004 Date: 31, 2004, unless superseded by subsequent

emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order increases king salmon bag and possession limits in two terminal fishery areas in the Ketchikan area to harvest surplus hatchery-produced king salmon, effective June 14 through July 31, 2004. The daily bag and possession limit is 12 king salmon of any size. King salmon caught in these terminal areas do not count toward a nonresident's annual limit.

REGULATION:

Consistent with 5 AAC 75.003. Emergency order authority. (2)(B), the following provisions are effective from June 14 through July 31, 2004:

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions to the waters; season; bag, possession, and size limits for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area.

- (j) In the Ketchikan vicinity:
- (6) In the waters of Nichols Pass north of the latitude of Driest Point, Revillagigado Channel north of the latitude of Harbor Point, Tongass Narrows south of the latitude of the Lewis Reef light, and Neets Bay east of the longitude of the eastern most tip of Bug Island:
 - (a) The bag and possession limit is 12 king salmon, no size limit; and,
 - (b) King salmon harvested in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit established by emergency order 1-KS-R-01-04, issued January 9, 2004.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Board of Fisheries authorized the department to increase sport fish bag and possession limits when hatchery-produced fish escape through existing fisheries to designated harvest areas in numbers that exceed brood stock needs for hatcheries producing these fish [5 ACC 75.003 (2) (B)]. Projections from Ketchikan area hatchery staff indicate a surplus of several thousand king salmon will return in 2004 to Whitman Lake, Neets Bay, Deer Mountain, and Tamgas hatcheries. Over the last several years, Alaska hatchery contributions within the time period and area opened by E.O. ranged from 75 to 100 percent. Tag returns from the Ketchikan Area sport fishery for 2004 indicate that over 85 percent of the tags recovered are from local hatcheries. In addition, tag returns recovered to date from the specific area within the boundaries listed in this emergency order indicate an Alaska hatchery contribution of 75 percent.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region I Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, (907) 465-4270 and at the Ketchikan Area Office, 2030 Sea Level Drive, Suite 215, Ketchikan, AK 99901. (907) 225-2859.

Kevin C. Duffy

Emergency Order Number 1-KS-A-10-04

June 10, 2004 Page 2

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By delegation to:

Stephen H. Hoffman Ketchikan Area Management Biologist